



Honorable Marvin Abney
Chairman, House Finance Committee
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

May 4, 2021

RE: Testimony on HB 6250- Related to Labor and Labor Relations

Chairperson Abney,

The undersigned members of the Rhode Island Business Coalition oppose HB6250- Creates a self-employment assistance program in the DLT. This act would create a self-employment assistance program in the department of labor and training (DLT) that would allow an eligible individual to receive allowances in lieu of regular unemployment benefits while attending self-employment assistance activities for the purpose of establishing a business and becoming self-employed. This act would take effect on September 1, 2021.

This legislation leaves several questions unanswered. What are the specific requirements a self-employed individual must show in order to receive these benefits? What is the process for monitoring and dispersing these benefits? What is the specific mechanism for funding this program?

We respectfully ask that you take on further action on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Rhode Island Staffing, William Roth, Executive Director

Rhode Island Small Business Economic Summit – Grafton Willey, Tax and Budget Committee Chairman

Rhode Island Business Group on Health – Al Charbonneau, Executive Director

Rhode Island Lumber and Building Materials Dealers Association – Kirk Ives, Regional Director

Rhode Island Society of Certified Public Accountants – Melissa Travis, President